



BADGER STATE Smoke Signals



Serving Amateur Radio in Wisconsin

Published Monthly Since 1969

Vol. 17 No. 11 - 203rd Consecutive Monthly Issue - Baraboo, Wis. - November 1986

ARRL TO FCC: RECONSIDER QUESTION POOLS

From The ARRL Letter

The ARRL has filed a Petition for Reconsideration with FCC requesting the Commission reverse its decision in PR Docket 85-196 delegating to Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) the responsibility for maintaining the question pools for written examination elements. The ARRL comments state that it was the intent of Congress that the FCC supervise the examination process through the maintenance of question pools, and that the FCC's maintenance of them is the only way to ensure standardization among the 25 VECs. A number of other petitions for reconsideration have also been filed.

In this Docket, the Commission will replace the question pools with what the ARRL Petition calls a "vague, generalized algorithm" which specifies a list of nine topics and the percentage of questions on each topic which each VEC should include in its question pools for each examination element. The list of topics in the algorithm is so general and vague that it permits radically different question pools to be maintained by the various VECs. For example it asks VECs to design ques-

tions for the Extra Class written examination on the topic of antennas and feedlines which relate to the extra privileges granted over those of an Advanced Class licensee. There is just no way practical way to comply with this. "There is no guidance in the algorithm. The League is completely at a loss as to how to apply it."

(Continued on page 9)

"IT'S MY NEW SINGLE SIDE-BAND RIG!"



Badger State Smoke Signals supports: The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) - The Wisconsin Nets Association (WNA) - The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR) - The Amateur Radio News Service (ARNS) - The Courage Handi-Ham System - The Morse Telegraph Club - GEARVAKI (The 'I' is silent)

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Subscriptions:

1 yr. \$ 7.50
 2 yr. 14.00
 3 yr. 20.00

to:

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 print items from BSSS provid-
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SWAPFESTS AND OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS

Minnesota (Richfield) - November 1: The Second Annual "Hamfest Minnesota and Computer Expo", sponsored by the Twin City FM Club, will be held at Richfield High School, 7001 Harriet Ave., S., from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. Admission is \$3.00 in advance, \$4.00 at the door. Special guest speaker, Wayne Green, W2NSD. Two hour DX seminar, FCC exams, expanded indoor flea market, commercial booths, food, door prizes; ARRL, AMSAT, and computer seminars, and much more. Talk-in on 16/76. For more information or advanced registration, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: HAMFEST MINNESOTA AND COMPUTER EXPO, Box 55, Minneapolis, MN 55440.

The Milwaukee Repeater Club is proud to sponsor the 2nd annual "6.91 FRIENDLY FES!" on Saturday, November 15, 1986; 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Sellers admitted at 7:00 a.m. at the Eagle's Club, 24th & Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI. Gather up your swapfest bargains and partake of that famous Milwaukee food, & beverages (including beer). Tickets are just \$3.00. Four foot tables for \$4.00. To save \$1.00 per ticket or table, send SASE with payment to The Milwaukee Repeater Club, P.O. Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201 before November 8, 1986. Talk-in 146.91- and 146.52 Advance info is available from the above address.

Rockford Hamfest, Computer Fair and ARRL Illinois State Convention will be held on November 16, 1986, at Rockford, IL. Contact Gary Hilker, K9LJN, 804 Otto Road, Rockford, IL 61111 (815) 654-3282

COMPUTER & ELECTRONICS SWAPFEST. Sunday, December 7, 1986 0800-1700. BUY, SELL, & SWAP ELECTRONICS. Food & Spirits Restaurant, Hwy. 44, Ripon, WI. Super Brunch --- 32 feet of food. Call Terry, (414) 398-3868 for vendor details.

Saturday, January 10, 1987. The 15th Annual Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, will be held at the Waukesha Co. Exposition Center Forum, Highways J & FI, Waukesha Wisconsin. WARRAC Swapfest, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201. A flyer with map and more information will be included with next months BSSS. Support this BSSS Booster.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas.

Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages, and/or we can include your flyers. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, and/or for including flyers, please contact K9IZ or K9EN.

CLUB MEETINGS:Badger Amateur Radio Society

(W9YT - University of Wisconsin - Madison)

Regular monthly meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of every month while school is in session, in B314 Electrical Engineering Building.

Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs, Ltd. (Stevens Point)

Regular club meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month.

Eau Claire A.R.C.

The Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club meets every second Tuesday of the month. Hams and guests are welcome.

Four Lakes A.R.C. (Madison WI)

RED CROSS BUILDING, 4860 Sheboygan Ave, Madison, WI., first and third Tuesday each month.

Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club

Regular meetings at 7pm, the third Monday of the month at Roosevelt Jr. High School, 318 E. Brewster St., Appleton, WI 54911. 424-735-6294 for info.

Green Fox Amateur Radio Club

Meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Green Lake Town Hall located at the intersection of county highways K and N.

Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs:

All meetings are held on the SECOND (2nd) Friday of each month.

Manitowoc County Radio Amateurs (MANCOTRAD)

First Wednesday; 7 p.m. at City Hall, 817 Franklin St, Manitowoc, WI.

Second Wednesday; Red Cross Building, 1816 Washington St., Manitowoc, WI.

Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club:

All regular meetings of MRAC scheduled for 1986 at Wauwatosa Savings and Loan Building, 7500 West State Street, will be held on the second Thursday of the month.

Ozaukee Radio Club

Meetings held every second Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Saukville Community Center

Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Regular meetings are held at 7:30 P.M., on the first Wednesday of each month in the Onalaska Community Center in Onalaska, WI.

South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club

Meetings held at Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, on first Wednesday of the month. Auctions held at March and October meetings.

West Allis Radio Amateurs Club

Regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at St. Francis Savings, 9330 W. Greenfield Ave., at 8:00 P.M.

The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association. (Wausau)

Holds regular monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The location varies, but information is available on the 146.04/64 repeater in Wausau.

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club: (Baraboo, WI)

All regular meetings of YTARC are at the Baraboo Civic Center. Meetings start at 7:30 P.M.

The meeting dates for 1986 are: Nov. 12 & Dec. 11 in room 29.

Let us know of your club meeting dates, and we will let others know of your meetings and activities. There may be Amateurs in your area interested in joining your club, or members of other clubs interested in making an interclub visit.

MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS

Oh what the heck -- items of interest:

Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club THE FEEDLINE

On September 6, FLARC held a transmitter hunt. The hunt featured two classes: ELECTRONIC and NON-ELECTRONIC. The Electronic class consisted of those with the newer sophisticated direction finding devices, and Non-electronic, the old hunt and search routine. The results were as follows.

- 1st-- Cliff Lawson, W9ZI.
- 2nd-- Don Liedl, WB9DBX - Frank Holliday, WB9NOV - Curt Peters, W9CP and Gary Liedl.
- 3rd-- Richard Burton, W9BAF, and Mike Culver, WA9QHP.

All three places came from the NON-ELECTRONIC field. The ELECTRONIC hunters didn't find the bunny.

THE TEST POINT

The following are known locations where Amateur Radio license examinations are scheduled in the Badger State area.

November 1, 1986	Stevens Point, WI
November 15, 1986	Waukesha, WI
November 15, 1986	Robbinsdale, MN
December 10, 1986	Milwaukee, WI
December 13, 1986	Appleton, WI
December 13, 1986	St. Paul, MN
December 20, 1986	Waukesha, WI
Third Sat. Monthly	Loves Park, IL

General rules for all examinations:

All examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs may permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor to find out if they allow walk-ins.)

To register for these examinations, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from the FCC Field Office, the ARRL or Badger State Smoke Signals. Send a 22¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL or BSSS. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group. Remember-- you must file at least 30 days in advance unless otherwise indicated.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$4.25 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their original Amateur license to the VEC. As in the past, a copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610.

Additional information is given below.

November 1, 1986 Stevens Point, WI

Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs, Ltd. - (ARRL/VEC)

Contact: Joe Larson N9JW
644 Portage Street
Stevens Point WI 54481

MILWAUKEE VOLUNTEER CORE GROUP - DE VRY VEC

The Milwaukee Volunteer Core Group will be giving Amateur Radio exams as follows:

November 15 and December 20, 1986 - In rooms S0208 and S0209 at Waukesha County Technical Institute

Walk-ins are welcome at all exam sites. Free coffee served only at WCTI. Exams start at 9:00 a.m. Exam fee is \$4.00. Novice thru Extra exams are available in Braille, large type, and on cassette tape for the visually impaired. Please bring your current Amateur license.

If you are interested, please send a post card with your name, address, phone number, date of test session, and the grade of license you wish to achieve. Send the

card to Syl Janczak, WD9JKZ, 3127A West Madison, Milwaukee WI 53215.

Exams for shutins by appointment only.

MILWAUKEE METRO AREA TEST TEAM - MRAC VEC

Wednesday, December 10, 1986 at 7:00 p.m.

These tests are scheduled to be given in room 256, Wauwatosa East High School at 74th and Milwaukee Ave. Use the East (74th St.) entrance.

Register in advance on a Postal System post card mailed to The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club, Inc., N50 W16328 Pin Oak Court., Menomonee Falls, WI 53051.

December 13, 1986 -- Appleton, WI

Sponsored by the The Fox Cities ARC. 9:00 a.m. at Roosevelt Jr. High School, 318 E. Brewster St., Appleton, WI. Pre-registration preferred by Nov. 13th, but walkins welcome. Talk-in on 146.16/76

Contact: Larry Siebers, KD9IA
1005 S. East St., Apt. 111
Appleton, WI 54915

Third Saturday of every month.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (DeVry VEC). Held at North Suburban Library on North Second Street in Loves Park, IL.

Contact: Gene Melton, AK9N
124 S. Chicago Ave. #2
Rockford, IL
(815) 229-7249

Minnesota tests - contact information:

Gopher/Minneapolis ARC:	Robbinsdale ARC:
Fred Hird	Neil McMillan
4716 Emerson Ave. S.	11132 97th Place
Minneapolis, MN 55409	Minneapolis, MN 55369
824-7702	(424-6248)

St. Paul ARC:
Jay Bellows
997 Portland Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55104
222-7253 (home) - 291-3015 (work)

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules.

Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EM or K9ZZ at the address shown on page 2.

FOR SALE: National NC-300 receiver and matching speaker. Mint except for minor cabinet scratches. \$125.00 will deliver anywhere in Wis. Call (715) 538-4126 after 6 p.m. Mike WD9DLN.

SELLING OUT: 50 Year collection of equipment, parts and literature. SASE for list. B. J. Kurtin, W9DQV, P.O. Box 569, Lisle, IL 60532.

Your ad can run here...For a mere fifty cents a line, you, too, can advertise in Badger State! Send your copy and humble remittance to Keeper of the Funds, Jim Decker, WB9UDT, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913-0337

SATELLITE HAMMING From FOXTALES

Those Amateurs who have satellite dish antennas might want to listen to the voice transponder of the Telstar 303 satellite after the commercial broadcasts have finished. This is your chance to be heard world-wide by non Amateurs thru the 303 bird. It seems that an Amateur in the western U.S. also owns an uplink station with access to the satellite 24 hours. In the time honored tradition of Amateur Radio, he has incorporated a 20 meter patch to his uplink station that allows other Amateurs to use 303. The 20 meter frequency is given frequently by those currently using the system and you only have to hear the transponder to learn what frequency is being used. What will they think of next?

Worry....Worry!
Getting out this paper is no picnic--
If I print jokes, people say I'm silly.
If I don't, they say I'm too serious

If I clip things from other papers,
I am too lazy to write myself;
If I don't, I'm stuck on my own stuff.

If I stick close to the job all day,
I ought to get out and see what's happening;
If I try to find out what's going on,
I ought to be on the job at the office.

If I don't print contributions,
I Don't appreciate true genius.
And If I do print them,
The paper's filled with junk.

If I make a change in the other fellow's write-up,
I am critical;

If I don't, I am asleep.
Now, like as not, somebody will say
I swiped this from some other paper--
I DID

From Feedback, the newsletter of Western Amateur Radio Association, Fullerton, CA. via WORLD RADIO

A Democrat got out of a cab in Madison the other day, and handed the driver a nickel tip. He said, "Here we go, now be sure and vote Republican." --ARNS



YELLOW THUNDER A.R.C.

The October 10, 1968 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order by the President, Art Kleefisch, W9WSS, at 7:50 p.m.

The following members and guests were present:

Art Kleefisch, W9WSS	Baraboo
Jim Decker, W89UHT	Baraboo
Steve Schwegler, W89RNL	Wisconsin Dells
Harry Westlund, K9EHJ	Baraboo
Harry Mayland, K9FFT	Baraboo
Ken Johnson, K9DZG	Mazonie
Paul Amend, KA9OBP	Portage
Charles H. Scholten, W9BZU	Manitowoc
Bill Klinkner	Sauk City
Anne Klinkner (quest)	Sauk City

On a motion by Jim Decker and seconded by Harry Mayland the minutes of the previous meeting, as published in Badger State Smoke Signals, was approved.

A letter of thanks to the club for volunteering help on the fund raising walk held recently.

The club was honored by the presence of Charles Scholten, W9BZU, of Manitowoc, who made his annual pilgrimage to Baraboo. Charles also gave a talk on the Hams in the Manitowoc area and their participation in a simulated emergency drill as relates to the nuclear plants in their area, i.e. an atomic energy crisis.

With no old business nor any new business to be brought before the club, the president then adjourned the business meeting at 8:30 p.m.

The club then went to the program portion of the meeting.

W9TP was the winner of the buck nite drawing, but forfeited the money by not being present,

A very interesting and informative talk on message handling and network operations and procedures was presented by Paul Amend, KA9OBP. Paul, our youngest member at 16 years age, and a proficient C.W. operator (50 w.p.m.) is to be commended on his interesting presentation.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry Westlund, K9EHJ, Acting Secretary

YTARC BIRTHDAY:

Wm. Hommel	KA9QFT	November	4
Orv Warning	W9DXN	November	14
Gary Pratt	W89ECB	November	17
James Taylor	WA9GJV	November	21

SPECIAL from Gearvakf Bulletin

With the decrease in gas prices, the national speed limit has been increased to 58 mph according to unreliable sources in Washington.

SENTENCE SERMON

Heap high the farmer's wintry hoard!
Heap high the golden corn!
No richer gift has Autumn poured
From out her lavish horn.

---John Greenleaf Whittier

COMPUTER AND ELECTRONICS SWAPFEST

Sunday, December 7, 1986, 0800-1700. Buy, Sell, Swap Electronics. Fodd & Spirits Restaurant, Hwy. 44, Ripon, WI. Super Brunch - 32 feet of food. Call Terry, (414) 398-3868 for vendor details.

Holiday Greetings From The Feedline

Here are some foreign phrases for use on QSLs or during those DX QSOs:

English: Merry Christmas	Happy New Year
French: Joyeux Noel	Bonne Annee
German: Frohliche Weinachten	Glueklich Neu Jahr
Italian: Allegro Natale	Felice Nuovo Anno
Spanish: Felices Pascuas	Feliz Ano Nuevo
Swedish: God Jul	Gott Nytt Ar
Yiddish: Freylekh Nittl	Gliklekh May Yor

I have found that by using these phrases during the holiday period, I can increase my signal reports by at least two S units. Also, my QSL return rate is much improved. I find my mail box just stuffed with QSLs and you will too!

---AA4MI

SILENT KEY

It saddens us to report that Carl Lindstrom, W0JSF has become a Silent Key. We at Badger State Smoke Signals extend our symathy to his family.

FCC to allow Written examination credit. From ARRL Letter

Beginning December 1, the Commission will allow re-examination credit for written elements passed during an otherwise unsuccessful Amateur examination, according to an FCC news release October 9. Currently the commission only allows credit for code examination elements. The FCC also clarified that examiners who administer a Novice examination are not required to issue a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE). Instead, applicants may produce a photocopy of a pending application which indicates the applicant has qualified for a Novice license. These rule changes are contingent upon Office of Management and Budget approval of revisions to FCC Form 610.

Small Talk

By Richard R. Regent K9GDF
Section Manager Wisconsin
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee WI 53221

Q. Does Wisconsin have Amateur Radio call plates for trucks and what do they cost?

A. Unfortunately, Wisconsin does not have Amateur truck plates available at any cost. But may I suggest you request personalized truck plates with your call on them as the next best thing. It's highly unlikely someone picked your call for their personalized plates.

Personalized plates, just ten bucks more than regular truck plates, won't bolster the subscript line "Amateur Radio," but they will let other Hams know who you are.

The personalized-plates annual cost for trucks of 4,500 pounds (GVW plus load) is \$40; 6,000 pounds, \$52, and 8,000 pounds, \$67.

According to an authority at the Department of Transportation in Milwaukee, all Amateur and personalized plates will be replaced in January, 1987, with blue lettering on a white background plates which have a colorful boat, birds, and barn scenery at the top.

For those of you without trucks, the auto and station wagon Amateur plates are available for a one-time \$10 first-issued fee plus the \$25 annual renewal.

Q. How old must a person be to become a Section Manager?

A. There aren't any specific age limits, except that a candidate for the elected position of ARRL Section Manager (SM) must be a League member for at least four years prior to the election. So, if you want to be precise, a candidate who joined the ARRL at birth, is now at least four years old, and holds a Technician or higher class license, can potentially qualify to be a Section Manager.

The youngest SM of all the 73 Sections, however, is Joel Harrison, WB5IGF, a 28 year young-timer in Arkansas.

There is no maximum age limit, with the oldest SM being Otto Schuler, K3SMB, an active old-timer in Western Pennsylvania at 74 years of age.

The average age of SMs is 51. This is one time I don't mind being below average (by several years).

Incidentally, with the new 74th Section of West Texas to be formed in 1987, there will then be one more SM. Could it be the potential four-year-old?

Q. Got any tips about carrying 2-meter equipment aboard commercial aircraft?

A. To avoid surprising airport security personnel, having your aeronautical-mobile plans cancelled, and disrupting flight arrangements, it's best to write or phone the airline or airport authorities well in advance of your flight to verify approval and to ask questions about your intentions to carry Ham equipment aboard.

Karen Thorne, WB9ZNA of Neenah, who works at an airport security checkpoint, advises that you remove the rubber-duck antenna from hand-helds before storing them in a suitcase. The luggage viewing silhouette formed by a 2-meter hand-held transceiver with a stubby antenna mounted on it looks mistakingly similar to a gun - an obviously undesirable situation in an airport.

Please send your questions and problems to Small Talk, address at beginning of column.

:-----:

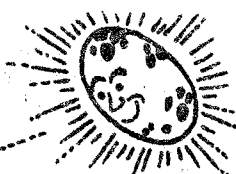
STATE GOVERNMENT LIAISON SOLVES ZONING PROBLEM

Our Wisconsin ARRL State Government Liaison (SGL), John Ackermann, AG9V, continues to help solve problems on the local scene. Here's another example.

City of De Pere zoning authorities ordered a local Ham to remove his approximately 40-foot high tower because it violated the local zoning ordinances - which, if construed literally, would ban nearly all towers. After discussion with City officials, it turned out that they were specifically concerned with the location of the tower in the side yard. An agreement was reached, with the City's blessing, to move the tower to the back yard. An increase in height was allowed to boot.

If you hear of someone in Wisconsin who may need legal help with an Amateur Radio problem, send John the information, the question, and an s.a.s.e. for a reply. Should you happen to know of someone who has solved a knotty problem, send that along, too. By working together and sharing information, we can provide hope for struggling individuals and keep our operating privileges. (Thanks K9GDF).

PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS



BY *Woody Minar* K9EF

13508 Tabscott Drive, Chantilly, Va. 22021

As predicted in an article several months ago, the sun has not proven this reporter wrong - at least not yet.

Upon reviewing the expected change in activity for the month of September (with the delay time in receiving and compiling the data and with the lead time for the article, information becomes dated), the sun is right on course to accurately predict whatever we need from it.

The predicted rise in propagation activity (although negative vice positive) did occur in September. When comparing the 1986 Ap and Solar Radio Flux with that in 1976, we see a 10 year 6 month (126 month) sunspot cycle. Here's what has been observed to occur:

October, 1974: The Ap index peaked for a two year high. The Ap index peaked for a two year high in April, 1985 (10 years 6 months later).

May 1975: The Solar Radio Flux slumped for a two year low. In September, 1985 (124 months) the same thing occurred.

August, 1975: Solar Radio Flux peaked for a two year high. In February, 1986, just 126 months later, the same phenomenon happened.

March, 1976: The Ap index reached a three and one half year high (bad propagation). Ten and one-half years later, in September, 1986, the Ap index reached a three year high.

July, 1976: The Solar Radio Flux reached its final low of the cycle. If the sun continues to behave the same way, then January, 1987, should see the low between cycles. Let's hope so, because the sun has dragged this out long enough.

September, 1986, then, is the worst month for propagation I've recorded in 12 years. The Ap index averaged 15 (August was 13 and July was 9) and the Solar Radio Flux averaged 68 for September while August was 68 and July was 70.

Unless the sun's history is going to fail to come true, then October will really be a bad month to chase DX. However, all bad things must come to an end. November or December is when the Ap index should fall

and the Solar Radio Flux should become confused and we should start with the flattened doldrums of the bottom of the sunspot cycle. Please don't hang me high if I speak false words.

Predictions. The Solar Radio Flux is of no help anymore; it's like an electrocardiogram of a mummy - flat. So, based solely on the Ap index, November 11-13, 25-26, December 9-11 and 24-25 should be the worst days for propagation (all things being equal of course). So eat plenty of turkey and open more presents 'cuz the turkey will be on the air and there won't be any presents for him if he is on the air.

The better than average days to be on the air fall in between. They are November 18-20, December 2-4 and 17-18.

There will not be an article next month because I will be on the road for about a month.

More to come: Famous events that have occurred during sunspot peaks and lows, places to write for more information, and more.

73, Woody

MILWAUKEE VOLUNTEER CORE GROUP EXAM RESULTS

On Sunday, October 12, 1986, the Milwaukee Volunteer Core Group, under the sponsorship of the Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs, conducted exams during their swapfest at the Waukesha Expo Center. Congratulations are in order for the following:

Richard Brink, KA9VOA, Novice to Technician

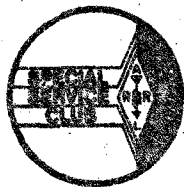
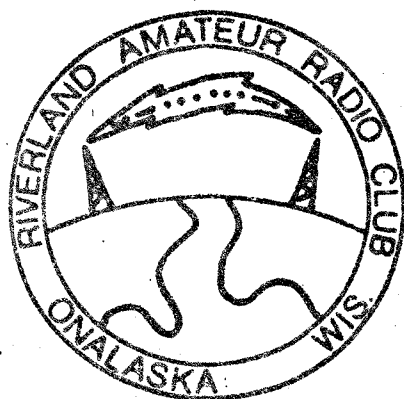
Alan Binkelman, N9BWS, General to Advanced

Daniel Bisbee, K9ZME, General to Advanced

Robert Braun, K9OSH, General to Extra

Daniel Barnhardt, No license to Novice with 13 wpm code credit

Editor's Note: The Milwaukee Volunteer Core Group continues to be the ONLY examination group which regularly sends the results of its exams to BSSS. Upgrading isn't only noteworthy; it's newsworthy, too! If you're part of an exam group, please send a summary of the results to us.. we'd like to share the good news with our readers! k9zz.



On October 1, 1986, at 7:37 p.m., the regular monthly meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Craig Goldbeck. The minutes of the September meeting were approved as read from the Badger State Smoke Signals. The treasurer's report was approved.

RTTY Repeater Report: It was reported that the 10/70 repeater has had very little use. Because of this, a motion was made and seconded that we disband the RTTY Repeater. The motion was passed. It was also requested that the antenna and coax at the 10/70 tower be used for a digipeater. A motion was made, seconded and passed.

37/97 Report: The telephone has been installed, the new antennas have been ordered. After an antenna mount is prepared, the antennas will be installed.

Volunteer Exam: We are still looking at December as the next test session, anyone wanting to take an exam should get in contact with Rich, KV9U.

"Ham of the Year" Committee Report: The committee has completed its report and has presented it to the membership with a motion that we accept the report and that the committee's duties be terminated. The motion was passed. It was decided that the executive committee would use this report as a guideline to make a selection of "Ham of the Year."

Old Business: A request has been mailed in for information on ordering more club patches, a reply has not been received yet. Liability insurance on the 37/97 antenna has been paid. This was a partial bill, a final bill will be paid in October.

New Business: It was decided that our Annual Christmas dinner would be held on January 17, 1987, at Knob Hill Restaurant. Dick, KØJYB, will make the necessary arrangements at Knob Hill.

A motion was made and seconded that we change the wording in the Standing Rules of the Constitution to read that the Annual dues would be determined at the December

meeting instead of the January meeting. The motion was passed.

A brief explanation of the ARRL and Archie Comic Book was presented to the membership.

Respectfully submitted,

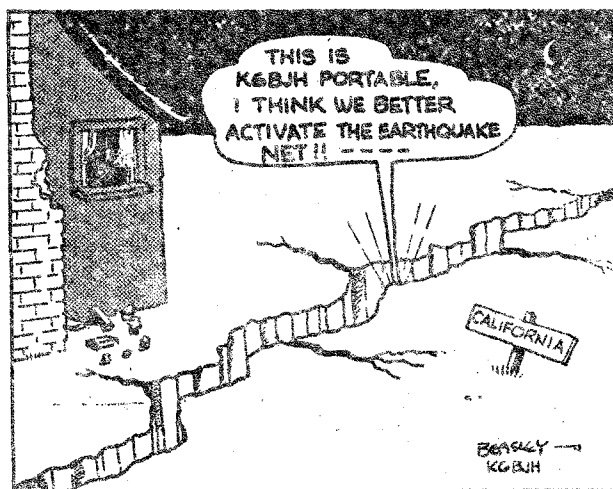
Greg A. Miller, KA9FOZ

Members Present

1.	Greg A. Miller	KA9FOZ
2.	Craig Goldbeck	N9ETD
3.	Rick Williams	KV9U
4.	Bob Anderson	WAØVHO
5.	Wid Johnson	W9DM
6.	Bob Pluntz	WD9FKV
7.	Art Osborn	WØJDC
8.	Al Reinholz	N9FZE
9.	Bruce Bjerstedt	K9CUT
10.	Ernie Gershon	K9ZVU
11.	Hugh Barker	KAØEJZ
12.	John Young	W9KAZ
13.	Gary Webb	NI9V
14.	Kent Helman	W9LZQ
15.	Jan Molledil	W9DI
16.	Van Elston	WA9FIO
17.	Duane Fruechte	W9HWQ
18.	Dick Low	KØJYB

Non-Members Present

1.	Henry Oehmigen	KAØHWQ
2.	Dave Bissen	NØAJY
3.	Fred Sorenson	
4.	Maty Johnson	
5.	Bob Schmidt	WA9JDR
6.	Mike Mullen	NØBUI
7.	Curt Phelps	



(Thanks Worldradio)

RECONSIDER QUESTION POOLS

(Continued from cover)

The petition states that the FCC expectation that the 25 different VEC organizations will somehow band together and establish one question pool is unrealistic. "The volunteer nature of the VEC program generally suggests the relative independence of VECs and a multitude of different question pools."

Should different question pools arise, candidates for the same class of license may be required to take examinations of widely different levels of difficulty and quality. For example, applicants with equal levels of understanding of the material may pass exams by one VEC, and fail exams by another VEC solely because of different question pools.

The League concludes that "there must be only one question pool per written element, approved by the Commission, so that candidates are uniformly qualified and that examinations are fair to each candidate."

Should the ARRL's Petition be denied, the ARRL may appeal to the US courts.

ECPA PASSES CONGRESS
AND SENT TO PRESIDENT

Congress has finished its work on the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 and sent it on to the White House for the President's signature.

On October 2, the House concurred with the Senate text and adopted the bill, HR-4952. The final version is said to be solidly supported by the Department of Justice.

The legislation will prohibit eavesdropping on certain communications such as electronic mail, computer-to-computer data transmissions, private video conferences and cellular radio.

The bill still creates an unwarranted expectation of privacy on the part of, for instance, cellular telephone users, but penalties for a first offense of intentionally listening to that service have been dropped to a \$500 fine only.

Scanner operators who hear a protected communication and tune away from it without acquiring its content will not have violated the new law.

The bill also toughens penalties against video pirates such as "Captain Midnight," a man who briefly jammed a satellite TV signal to protest signal scrambling. Sections of the bill about which Amateurs were most con-

cerned at the outset have been modified, and it does not appear to inhibit Amateur operation as such. (From The ARRL Letter)

FCC TO ALLOW
WRITTEN EXAMINATION CREDIT

Beginning December 1, the Commission will allow re-examination credit for written elements passed during an otherwise unsuccessful Amateur examination, according to an FCC news release October 9. Currently, the Commission only allows credit for code examination elements.

The FCC also clarified that examiners who administer a Novice examination are not required to issue a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE). Instead, applicants may produce a photocopy of a pending application which indicates the applicant has qualified for a Novice license.

These rules changes are contingent upon Office of Management and Budget approval of revisions to FCC Form 610. (From The ARRL Letter)

CQ NOVICE

CQ Novice is a magazine in development by CQ Publishing that will be made available free of charge for six months to all newly licensed Amateurs.

According to Publisher Richard Ross, K2MGA, the 6 issues of the magazine will be designed to aid the newly ticketed Ham in getting his feet wet in the real, day-to-day world of Amateur Radio.

Writers such as Gordon West, WB6NOA, Robert Locher, W9KNI, and Peter R. O'Dell, KB1N, will present the various aspects of Amateur Radio to the new Ham.

HANDI-HAM SYSTEM
MANAGER JOB OPENING

The Courage Center is searching for an entry level manager to direct the operation of the Courage HANDI-HAM System. This unique program provides training, education and radio equipment to disabled Amateur Radio operators worldwide who join a total network membership exceeding 6,000.

Position qualifications include a bachelor's degree, 2+ years project management experience, strong verbal and written communication skills, and a general or higher level Amateur Radio license. Resumes received in confidence. Appointment will be made as soon as possible after January

1, 1987. For more information, contact Todd Johnson, Director of Human Resources, Courage Center, 3915 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley MN 55422, at (612) 588-0811. (From The ARRL Letter)

VOLUNTEER EXAM FRAUD

A VEC testing scandal of major proportions is being investigated by the FCC.

According to Special Services Division Chief Raymond A. Kowalski, several volunteer examination teams giving exams under the All Volunteer Testing Program are under Commission scrutiny for allegedly breaching the security of the testing system. Ray Kowalski told Westlink Report that the problems could involve charges of outright fraud and the sale of licenses. "We are getting more and more instances of people who are attempting to beat the Volunteer Examination System," Kowalski said. "We're trying to deal with more and more instances of either fraud, or improperly administered examinations and various different categories of improprieties."

Currently, the Commission is looking into allegations of improper conduct by a limited number of VE teams in Texas, North Carolina, Puerto Rico and other areas. The problems range from simple mistakes by the VEs to teams that are virtually selling licenses. "The program has not been mistake free, but I think what we are seeing now are people earnestly trying to test the system," added the bureau chief.

Kowalski said that in all of the cases, there appeared to be what he called a "unifying thread" based upon personal background, direct relations or friends binding together those involved, but he did not elaborate. Nor did he name any particular Volunteer Examination Coordinator or group of VECs under which the VE teams being investigated serve. Also not confirmed by Kowalski are the rumors of a major investigation of several California VE teams. These rumors are based on charges of similar misconduct in the volunteer program, including the charging of higher than approved fees, and, in one case, the alleged on-the-air solicitation of Amateurs to simply purchase a higher class of license without taking a test.

What will happen if any of these charges are proven true? The loss of licenses, heavy fines and prison are all possibilities for those Volunteer Examiners who are involved in this type of scam. The retesting of either a random sample or of all their candidates by another team operating under

a different VEC is a distinct possibility as well. While the current situation is not yet a monumental problem, this breach in testing security -- if allowed to continue -- could bring volunteer testing to a halt at some later date. Without any means for the FCC to easily resume testing, growth in the Amateur Radio Service could be severely stunted for a long period.

Westlink believes that continued volunteer testing in an atmosphere of trust and honesty is essential for the health of our service. (From The Westlink Report)

ARCHIE AND THE HAM

By Rich Moseson, N2BFG

The ARRL and the Amateur Radio industry have a new tool available to help recruit young people into our hobby. It's called Archie's Ham Radio Adventure, and as far as we know, it's the first ever Ham Radio comic book.

It will be available free of charge, mostly to teachers willing to use the book in their classes. Individual Hams and local clubs are encouraged to contact interested teachers to get them started with the program.

In addition, youngsters will be able to join the newly-formed ARRL-sponsored "Archie Radio Club," which will then bring them periodic newsletters from the ARRL.

However, the most important follow-up to the comic book will occur on a local level, primarily from Ham clubs that are willing to help with licensing courses, "Eimerring" and support for school radio clubs.

For further information, contact the Club and Training Department, ARRL-HQ, 225 Main St., Newington CT 06111.

(Rich Moseson, N2BFG, is associate producer of the award-winning CBS children's television program "In the News" and served as script advisor in creating the text for "Archie's Ham Radio Adventure.") (From The Westlink Report)

(Editor's note: I have a copy of the comic book, and it is excellent. It should serve its intended purpose very well. k9zz)

DE K9ZZ

In the near future, BSSS will be taking on a brand new look; we think it will be an improvement and we hope you will agree!.. I have a Samsonite attache case for sale; anybuddy interested?.. HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO OUR READERS! k9zz..



EAU CLAIRE A.R.C.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club will be held on Tuesday November 11th at the Eau Claire Parks & Rec. Bldg. located at Oxford and First Streets. The meeting begins at 7:30PM.

LUNCH COMMITTEE

Lunch committee for the November meeting is Corrine-KD9KL, Fred-KC9NN, Stevie-KD9YO

OCTOBER MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was opened at 7:30 PM by Pres. Yost KD9OB. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as read as was the Treasurers report.

OLD BUSINESS

W9WRM, Tommy, special event coordinator gave a report on the race held on Saturday October 11th and the Walk for Hunger held Sunday October 12th. The 12 mile race on Saturday was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Chippewa Falls, whose president commented on how useful amateur radio is for relaying communications in this type of activity.

Club members participating were:

W9WRM-Tommy	W9FLK-Darold	KD9MP-Oscar
K9HUL-Chuck	W9BAR-Bob	KA9HWN-Andy
N9EQR-Liz	KD9YO-Stevie	KA9VKH-Joey
W9EPX-Gordon		

KA9RII, Lisa, reported on the London Square Mall project that will be held on Saturday October 25th and Sunday October 26th. W9PAM, Ron, has offered his complete station for use with the special event at the London Square Mall. KA9LJK, Phil, is looking for some RG-8 coax for this project, along with operators who can explain Ham Radio to the public. And if someone would have one a CQ DX Tri-Bander so he can work the CQ DX Contest.

W9BAR, Bob, reported on the 31/91 repeater. The problem with different people's voices activating the phone patch has been solved! Also the repeater is currently down because of a break in the feedline up about 200 feet on the tower. The problem with the TV tower is that now the new tower owners require professional antenna people who carry special liability insurance to climb the tower and make the repairs. Bob suggested we find a new location for the repeater.

President Yost thanked Bob and Bill, WB9ULA for their work on the repeater's current problems which has been considerable. A motion was made and seconded to remove the 31/91 repeater to a new site; all were in favor with no objections. A committee was formed to look into a new location and report back at the next meeting. The committee consists of K9UXP, Don, WB9ULA, Bill and W9MED, Lowell. Nels Horney, repeater coordinator has been informed of the situation. The 147.84/24 machine is now being used as a replacement for the 31/91 machine. There is a need for control operators, please submit name and call in writing to President Yost, KD9OB.

W9NW, Carl, reported that examinations will be held Saturday, October 18th at the usual location.

The CW net operated by N19R, Robin and KA9RIL, John; will be on Monday and Friday nights on 21,150 Khz. It will be conducted as an informal net.

NEW BUSINESS

KD9L, Ruth and K9VQP, Terry are the proud parents of a baby boy. (another new ham) Terry is reportedly already working on the code with his new son and that he is starting with the letter M.

The question of a christmas party was brought up and Tuesday, December 9th, which is a meeting night was agreed upon as the night to hold it. W9FYI, Harry, will try to reserve the Legion Hall again and see that there are plenty of spoons.

WD9EAK, Terry, of Anderson Electronics has a complete supply of upgrading materials available.

KA9LJK, Phil, has applied for a repeater license which will operate on 145.23/144.63 and that it will be an open repeater.

Remember your club/repeater fees are due by January 1, 1987. Re-read the new fees schedule that had previously been listed in Badger Smoke Signals.

The meeting adjourned and was followed again by much coffee, cookies and conversation.

Respectfully submitted,
W9FLK-Darold -- Secretary EARC

***** FROM THE TREASURER *****

As stated in the newly revised BY-LAWS of the ECARC, the following changes in the dues structure are now in effect. For the calendar year of 1987, the PRIMARY club member will pay \$6.00, and any ASSOCIATE members in his household will pay \$3.00; the PRIMARY repeater member will pay \$10.00, and any ASSOCIATE members in his household will pay \$5.00. Club and repeater dues must be paid BEFORE January 1, 1987. After this date, a fee of \$2.00 will be charged for re-instatement. (ARTICLE V, Sec. 3 and 4). Please remember to pay your dues before January 1 in order to avoid the re-instatement fee. If paying by mail, please enclose an SASE. To pay dues, or if you have any questions, contact Lisa Harper, KA9RII, 514 Fall Street, Eau Claire, WI 54703. 839-8516.

Did you hear about this newsletter editor that decided to make a million dollars? He went into the printing business and printed a great many road maps. Then he folded. --ARNS



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO ASSOCIATION (W.A.P.R.)
P.O. BOX 1215
FOND DU LAC, WI 54935

ATARI ST OWNERS TAKE NOTE

PK-64 SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE UPDATE

NOW AVAILABLE FROM AEA IS AN UPDATED SOFTWARE PACKAGE AND AN IMPROVED CABLE. THE SOFTWARE IS CONTAINED IN TWO EPROMS THAT MAY BE PLUGGED IN BY THE USER. THE MENU APPEARS A LITTLE DIFFERENT WITH THE NEW ROMS, BUT ADDS FEATURES SUCH AS: A LARGE RAM BUFFER, LARGER TRANSMIT BUFFER AND BETTER MULTICONNECT CONTROL. THE NEW CABLE IS A ROUND, SHIELDED CABLE ABOUT 24 INCHES LONG. THIS IS A GREAT IMPROVEMENT ON THE CABLE PROBLEM, SINCE THE TNC CAN NOW BE LOCATED FAR ENOUGH AWAY FROM THE COMPUTER TO MAKE TUNING EASIER. COST IS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$35 FOR THE ROMS AND \$35 FOR THE CABLE RETROFIT.

--FROM THE OPERATOR NEWSLETTER VIA GATEWAY

TNC BATTERY BACKUP PROJECT IS A SUCCESS

HERE IS A LIST OF PARTS NEEDED FROM RADIO SHACK:

- (1) 125 VAC DPDT RELAY #275-217B \$5.49
- (1) RELAY SOCKET #275-220 \$1.49
- (1) ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITOR 500 MFD @ 35 V #272-1018 \$0.99
- (2) 1 AMP FUSES \$0.69
- (2) FUSE HOLDER CLIPS \$0.79
- (1) 12 VOLT LANTERN BATTERY #23-007 \$10.39
- (2) COAX POWER PLUGS #274-1567 \$0.99
- (2) POWER JACKS #274-1565 \$0.79

SOME WIRE AND A SMALL BOX TO PUT THIS CONTRAPTION INTO!

IT IS REALLY QUITE SIMPLE. THE RELAY IS POWERED BY 110 VOLTS COMING OUT OF THE WALL OUTLET. WHEN THERE IS CURRENT AVAILABLE FROM THE OUTLET, THE RELAY IS ENGAGED. THIS ALLOWS THE 12 VOLTS COMING FROM THE WALL TRANSFORMER TO FLOW THROUGH THE RELAY AND BE SENT TO THE TNC. WHEN THERE IS A POWER FAILURE, THE RELAY RELEASES, AND SWITCHES THE CONTACTS TO THE 12 VOLT LANTERN BATTERY. WHEN THE POWER FAILURE IS OVER, THE RELAY ENGAGES AGAIN AND RECONNECTS THE WALL TRANSFORMER! THE RELAY, ALONE, IS TOO SLOW TO KEEP CONTINUOUS POWER TO THE TNC. THAT PROBLEM WAS SOLVED BY PUTTING A 500 MFD CAPACITOR IN PARALLEL OVER THE 12 VOLT OUTPUT GOING TO THE TNC. THE CAP STORES ENOUGH CURRENT SO THAT THE TNC DOES NOT NOTICE THAT SPLIT SECOND WHEN THE RELAY IS SWITCHING! I ALSO USED THE 1 AMP FUSES TO PROTECT BOTH THE 12 VOLT OUTPUT AND THE 110 VOLTS FOR THE RELAY. THE 12 VOLT LANTERN BATTERY IS PRETTY HEAVY DUTY AND SHOULD LAST A LONG TIME. ONE COULD ALSO USE (2) 6 VOLT BATTERIES IN SERIES AND IT WOULD BE CHEAPER. NO MORE MESSAGES LOST DUE TO POWER FAILURES! TAKE CARE AND TALK TO YOU SOON.

DALE - WB9ADB WAS A BIG HELP IN POINTING ME IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION ON THIS PROJECT!

73, BRAD - KA9JDE

A FREE PACKET TERM PROGRAM FOR THE ST COMPUTERS IS AVAILABLE FROM WA4GPF. IT IS SPLIT SCREEN HAS MANY UNIQUE FEATURES. ALSO, IT IS FREE! YOU MAY GET THIS PROGRAM BY SENDING A BLANK DISK AND RETURN POSTAGE TO THE AUTHOR, CHARLES HARRINGTON, 5634 LESSER DRIVE, ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32808.

SOME ADDITIONAL INFO ON THE PK-232

RELAYED FROM WA9POV BBS, MIL, WI. RELAYED FROM KN5D BBS - ABQ, NM. RELAYED BY AL7DR - ABQ, NM.

HERE'S THE STORY ON AEA'S PK-232 AND UDC-232 ALL-MODE CONTROLLERS. PACKAGED IN FAMILIAR BOX LIKE THEIR CP-1/CP-100S, THE PK-232 IS FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENT OF AEA'S PK-64, BUT HAS ITS OWN Z80 PROCESSOR AND RAM (THE PK-64 USES C-64'S 6502 AND MEMORY) AND PRESENTS THE CONVENTIONAL RS232C INTERFACE TO ANY COMPUTER OR DUMB TERMINAL JUST LIKE YOUR TELEPHONE MODEM.

THE PK-232 PROVIDES MORSE, BAUDOT, ASCII, AMTOR AND PACKET. THE UDC-232 ("UNIVERSAL DATA CONTROLLER") IS THE "DIGITAL-ONLY" BLOCK OF THE PK-232, WITHOUT THE ANALOG TU/MODEM SECTION, FOR USERS WHO ALREADY HAVE A SATISFACTORY TU SUCH AS THE CP-1/CP-100S OR ANY OTHER EXISTING GOOD-QUALITY INTERFACE.

THE MORSE, BAUDOT AND ASCII CODE AND ROUTINES ARE BASICALLY DERIVED FROM AEA'S WELL-PROVEN MBA-TOR PROGRAMS. HOWEVER, THE AMTOR ROUTINES ARE BASED ON THE EXCELLENT "Z-AMTOR" CODE WRITTEN FOR THE Z80 BY PAUL NEWLAND, AD7I. YOU STICK THE PK-232 WHEREVER YOUR TELEPHONE MODEM HAS BEEN AND USE WHATEVER TERMINAL PROGRAM YOU USE NOW. EXCELLENT VHF/HF MODEM (TU) BUILT IN, NOTHING ELSE REQUIRED.

MODEM BYPASS CONNECTOR PERMITS USE OF EXTERNAL HIGHER-SPEED MODEMS. THE FRONT PANEL IS FULL OF LEDS INDICATING MODES AND STATUS, INCLUDING THOSE FOUND ON THE TNC-2. FRONT-PANEL RADIO-1/RADIO-2 SWITCH SELECTS EITHER OF TWO I/O REAR-PANEL CABLE CONNECTORS MINIMIZING CABLE SWAPPING BETWEEN HF AND VHF RADIOS. TAPR'S TNC-2 CODE IS THE BASIS FOR THE PK-232'S PACKET ROUTINES, WITH A COUPLE OF VERY INTERESTING ADDITIONS BY AEA'S FULL-TIME PROGRAMMER STEVE STUART, N6IA. THE FULL TNC-2 COMMAND/PARM STRUCTURE IS INCLUDED.

THE PK-232'S NEW COMMAND/PARM "MBX" IS DANDY - DO "MBX" [PBBS CALLSIGN] AND THE SYSTEM WILL DISPLAY/PRINT ONLY THE INFORMATION PACKETS DECODED FROM THAT PBBS, IN CORRECT SEQUENCE, WITHOUT REPEATS AND WITHOUT HEADERS. SO, WHEN ONE OF THE OTHER GUYS ON CHANNEL IS "DOWNLOADING" A 17K GATEWAY OR OTHER LONG FILE, YOU CAN COPY/SAVE/PRINT THE SAME FILE WITHOUT ALL THE JUNK YOU USED TO GET AND THUS AVOID HAVING TO MANUALLY EDIT OUT THE TRASH OR PULL THE SAME FILE DOWN YOURSELF IN THE CONVERSE MODE.

A Republican got out of a cab in Milwaukee the other day and handed the driver a nickel tip. He said, "Here we go, now be sure and vote Democratic." --ARNS

NOTES FROM AROUND THE STATE

TODD - N9EQP HAS SET UP A BB9 ON .01 IN EAU CLAIRE.

RICK - W9LZQ IN ONALASKA HAS SET UP A WIDE COVERAGE DIGIPEATER FOR THE LA CROSSE AREA - W9LZQ-1. THE DIGI CONSISTS OF A 32K RADIO SHACK MODEL 100 AND A MFJ INC.

PAT - KD9UU IS REPORTED TO BE WORKING ON A NEW DIGIPEATER - SPECS AND LOCATION UNKNOWN. PAT LIKES TO FOX HUNT AND CHALLENGES ANYONE TO DISCOVER THE LOCATION "IF YOU CAN".

MANITOWOC'S DIGIPEATER - N9AVX-9/N9AVX-2 IS REPORTED TO CHANGE ITS CALL TO KD9ZF-9/KD9ZF-2. ADDITIONALLY, IT IS LOCATED ON A 200 FOOT TOWER AND HAS CONFERENCE BRIDGE CAPABILITY BY CONNECTING TO N9AVX-2. TYPING A "CONTROL-U" WILL DISPLAY THE OTHER STATIONS (UP TO 6) ON THE BRIDGE. EVERYTHING TRANSMITTED ON THE BRIDGE IS DISPLAYED TO EACH STATION ON LINE MAKING IT GREAT FOR ROUNDTABLES, WITHOUT THE HASSLE OF SWITCHING STREAMS/CHANNELS OR SEEING ALL OTHER QSOs.

THANKS GO TO TODD - N9EQP, PAT - KD9UU AND BRAD - KA9JDE FOR SENDING INFO VIA PACKET FOR THIS MONTH'S ISSUE. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE STATIONS DROPPING ME A LINE IN THE FUTURE. I AM ON 24 HOURS, ACCESSABLE THRU W9SQU-2 AND W9SDA-1.

RELIABILITY MOD FOR TAPR-2'S

THOUGHT WE'D SHARE A MOD FOR THE TAPR-2'S. (PK-80, MFJ-1270, PAC-COM, ETC.) WE NOTED -5V PROBLEMS, WHEN USING THE 5 WIRE CONTROL MODE OF OPERATION. (NOT NOTED WHEN USING X-MODEM PROGRAMS) THIS MOD NOT ONLY IMPROVES THE RELIABILITY OF OPERATION BUT ALSO PROTECTS THE I.C.'S USING THE -5 VOLTS FROM BEING EXPOSED TO +5 VOLTS DO TO A FAILURE OF THE -5 VOLT REGULATOR.

THE INDICATION OF FAILURE IS THE BCD LIGHT FLICKERS OR STAYS ON EVEN WHEN THE RADIO IS TURNED OFF.

- 1) REPLACE THE 6.3 VOLT 1/4 WATT ZENER WITH A 6.3 VOLT 1 WATT ZENER. (CR-6)
- 2) INSTALL A 1N4001-1N4006 DIODE IN PARALLEL WITH C-10. (IT MAY BE INSTALLED ON THE BOTTOM OF THE BOARD THE END OF THE DIODE WITHOUT THE BAR IS CONNECTED TO THE (-) SIDE OF THE CAP.)

THE MODIFICATION SEEMS TO HAVE WORKED VERY WELL ON THE 4 TNC'S THAT WE HAVE INSTALLED IT. IT WON'T PROTECT THE TNC FROM ALL FORMS OF DAMAGE BUT IT SHOULD MINIMIZE PROBLEMS IN THE -5 VOLT AREA. GOOD LUCK.

BOB, NK8T (MEMBER, FARA PACKET USERS GROUP)
CENTRAL ARIZONA GATEWAY/NBX: W9DOWN DE N9EDH ->>>

PACKET SKYWARN?

THERE ARE BITS AND PIECES HEARD HERE AND THERE THAT PACKET IS IN USE FOR SKYWARN OPERATIONS. THIS HAS PROMPTED ME TO INITIATE INFORMATION REQUESTS ON VARIOUS BULLETIN BOARDS TO TRY AND TRACK DOWN A WORKING SYSTEM TO COPY FOR WISCONSIN. AFTER ALL, AS AN INFORMATION RELAY NETWORK, PACKET REIGNS SUPREME IN AMATEUR RADIO.

MY EFFORTS HAVE MET WITH LIMITED SUCCESS. THERE ARE TWO GROUPS WORKING TOWARD DEVELOPING A PACKET SKYWARN NETWORK IN WISCONSIN. PERHAPS WITH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY MORE PACKETEERS, A NETWORK COULD BE ACTIVE BY THE SPRING OF 1987.

I HAVE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM JIM ANDERSON - N9AGH, ARES DISTRICT EMERGENCY COORDINATOR FOR SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN WHICH CASTS A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD DEVELOPING A NETWORK:

STEVE:

REFERENCE: YOUR QUESTIONS ON USING PACKET FOR SKYWARN; SOME OF MY THOUGHTS:

1. ANY CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO SEVERE WEATHER COMMUNICATIONS ON AMATEUR RADIO IN WISCONSIN SHOULD BE COORDINATED THROUGH GARY MAPLES, W9OAK, SEC FOR WISCONSIN.
2. IN THE SOUTH CENTRAL AREA OF WISCONSIN, ARES HAS A 2 METER STATION AT THE NWS FACILITY AT THE DANE COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT WHICH IS ACTIVATED ON THE REQUEST OF THE NWS. THIS IS A 2 METER FM STATION USED ONLY FOR A RELAY BETWEEN NWS AND A SKYWARN NET CONTROL AT A SEPARATE LOCATION. CURRENTLY, KC9XH IS NET CONTROL WITH BACKUP OPERATORS N9CPW AND W9GUT.
3. I HAVE CONSIDERED THE IDEA OF A PACKET INSTALLATION AT THE MADISON NWS, BUT CURRENTLY FEEL THAT THIS WOULD ADD TOO MUCH CONFUSION AT THE NWS FACILITY. I HAVE HEARD THAT ARES IN THE MILWAUKEE AREA WAS CONSIDERING A PACKET INSTALLATION AT NWS THERE, BUT NO RECENT INFORMATION.
4. I THINK A SKYWARN NET OF SOME SORT ON PACKET RADIO WOULD BE BENEFICIAL, BUT SHOULD BE HANDLED BY OPERATING STATIONS LOCATED SEPARATE FROM THE NWS STATIONS, LINKED TO NWS VIA 2 METER FM. A PACKET NET COULD RELAY INFORMATION AROUND THE ENTIRE STATE, AS WELL AS GETTING INFORMATION FROM MINNESOTA, IOWA AND ILLINOIS.
5. I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS YOU HAVE ON ESTABLISHING A SKYWARN NET ON PACKET, AND BY COPY OF THIS NOTE TO YOU, REQUEST THE SAME FROM W9OAK AND W9NGT. A CONFERENCE BRIDGE SYSTEM SUCH AS USED BY W9MFB DURING THE POINT BEACH DISASTER DRILL MIGHT BE WORTH CONSIDERING.

THANKS, 73

JAMES E. ANDERSON N9AGH
DEC SC WI
4805 ACADEMY DRIVE
MADISON, WI 53716
(608) 222-9625

WELL, THE BALL SEEMS TO BE IN OUR COURT FOR IDEAS FOR INPUT AND DEVELOPING THOSE IDEAS INTO A WORKABLE SOLUTION. IF YOU HAVE SOME IDEAS ON THE SUBJECT, DON'T KEEP THEM TO YOURSELF. ONE OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR IDEAS, LET'S HEAR YOURS.

CUL DE STEVE - W9ZRE IN RIPON



WISCONSIN NETS ASSOCIATION

WISCONSIN NETS

NET	WNA	FREQ	UTC	CST	MANAGER
BWN	YES	3984	1200Z	0600	WD9IID
BEN	YES	3985	1800Z	1200	KA9RII
WSBN	YES	3985	2330Z	1730	WB9ESM
WMN	YES	3723	0000Z	1800	N9DGL
WSSN	YES	3645	0030Z	1830	N9BDL
WIN-E	YES	3662	0100Z	1900	WB9ICH
WIN-L	YES	3662	0400	2200	KC9CJ
NWTN	YES	34/94	0030Z	1830	KD9VR
NCWTN	YES	31/91	0030Z	1830	KD9TT
GR.BAY	NO	72/12	0245Z	2045	WB9NRK
			THU	WED	

CAND REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1986 X 634 MESSAGES IN 30 SESSIONS X D9RM REPRESENTED 100 PERCENT X WISCONSIN STATIONS N7BGE W9CBE W9DDV KA9RII AND W9IEM X 73 - JERRY WSKLV NM.

GLASSARM REPORT

(Wisconsin Slow Speed Net)

Lee G. Andreas

Net Manager

Rte 1 Hwy D East

Lake Tomahawk WI 54539

SECTION MANAGER'S NOTES

Richard R. Regent K96DF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee WI 53221

WB9YPY was awarded plaque from WNA for being chosen as the traffic handler of the year.

New officers WNA: Chairman WB9ICH; N9DGL Secretary; NC9G Treasurer; and K9UTQ Training Officer. Contact them with your questions and suggestions for traffic handling or net procedures.

KA9RZL and W9NGP are new Official Relay Stations. KB9IE, who lives in the Milbert area, is now an Assistant Technical Coordinator.

Interested in DX? The Greater Milwaukee DX Association has DX tips, rumors, news, and great programs at members homes around SE Wisconsin; ask KJ9I for information.

New Wisconsin net, Fearless Brass Pounders Net meets on trial basis Monday and Friday at 8 p.m. on 21.150 MHz for code practice and rag chewing, ask KA9RZL for details.

December 10, exams at Wauwatosa East High School by Milwaukee Metro Area Test Team, mail card to W9SNK.

December 11, Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club's annual Christmas Dinner Party 7 p.m. at Elm Grove Legion Post Hall with plenty of fun and door prizes; s.a.s.e. to W9SNK for invitation and registration.

December 20, exams at Waukesha County Technical Institute, send card to WD9JKZ.

Milwaukee ARES could use more operators for Operation Santa Claus, December 24th to help kids at the hospital talk to Santa.

Tip of the month: The happiest miser on earth is the one who saves friends.

Changes, changes, changes. The Wisconsin Slow Speed Net is no exception to the rule of changes.

Our long-time net control station for Monday evenings and Net Delegate has retired. Rick Williams, KV9U, has asked to be replaced so that he may concentrate on his studies. He is returning to college for night classes and possibly earning his Master's degree. We wish you the best on your academic endeavors, Rick.

To give you an idea of Rick's steadiness, I only had to fill in once for him as a NCS when he forgot a net. I wish all the other NCS were that dedicated. Also, he never missed the eyeball meetings of the WNA, even if it meant travelling across most of the state from the La Crosse area to get there. Rick was a NCS as KA9IHR when I first started checking into the net. Thanks again Rick for all of your efforts. This NM appreciates them.

Replacing Rick on Mondays is Paul, KA9OBP. I don't think Paul needs much of an introduction to those who hang around the nets. He was the NM of the Novice Net and is very active on both phone and CW nets. And believe it or not, he does slow down from 50 WPM to 13 WPM for the net. If you don't believe that, check in on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. local time on 3.645 MHz and see (or hear) for yourself.

Because Paul has a busy schedule with school activities and homework, Robin, N19R, has agreed to fill in for him if necessary. Robin is the CW voice of Chippewa Falls. She is also active on the Novice and WIN nets.

Last month's issue of BSSS had a small announcement of the results of the election of the Wisconsin Nets Association. In case you missed it or are depending on this column for the announcement of the balloting (I hope the latter is true), the president for the next year will remain the same: Larry, WD9ICH. The new secretary is Bruce, N9DGL, and the treasurer is Art, NC9G. The training officer is Gene, K9UTQ.

For those of you who missed the picnic and meeting, shame on you. Even though the day looked like there may be some raindrops, none fell on this august group that meets in September. A rare appearance was put in by W9NGP, Ed Rice of Oconomowoc. Ed is strictly CW so some of you phone buffs may not recognize the name or

call. Mr. Ed, W9UCL, one of the stalwarts of the WSDN, credits W9NGP with starting him out in Ham Radio. Sometime we have to get either or both Eds to tell us fuzzy-cheeked wet-nosed recruits about the spark days.

Also a highlight of any eyeball meeting is seeing all of those other Hams who we have met in the past. That alone is worth the price of admission. It is unfortunate that the time for the meeting and picnic is so short. Next year you should be there too, and maybe Lisa, KA9RII, will bring along her big, ferocious, white dog, Fang, back for another picnic.

Traffic on most nets seems to be down at this time of year. One exception was WIN/E not too long ago. There was a 28/28 for traffic offered and passed. That is starting to get up there with the BEN. The WSSN, unfortunately, has not had such banner nights. WSSN statistics for July, August and September are as follows:

QNI	TRAFFIC	QTR
571	152/115	1566

You can help to increase these numbers. Please join us.

Now for the Department of People You Didn't Expect to Meet. Who is the Mighty Mole Mangler? Tune in on all WNA nets and you may just learn that person's identity or pick up some other tidbit of information that will help make your life more enjoyable. Who didn't make it to the WNA picnic? AGAIN! One thing is for sure. Traffic handling on Wisconsin Section Nets is far from dull.

See you all in 1987 in BGSS and daily on the net frequencies.

73, Lee, W9BDL, NM

WISCONSIN INTRASTATE EARLY (WIN/E)

Larry Guthu W9YICH
Net Manager
706 West Jennings
New London WI 54961

Hi gang! Here it is, time for some more written words for the BGSS. I don't know where the time goes. It has been busy around here with work and all the things going on during the weekends that before you know it the months just zip right by.

Well, another WNA picnic has come and gone and this year Ma Nature just did not want to co-operate, so the turnout was a little on the light side, but all that were there had a good time. I hope that next year will be much better weatherwise, so that we can get a real good crowd out there.

Enough about that and on to the meat of the subject. The net, as it is right now, is doing fine; no real problems, except for the fact that I would like to see a few more people taking our open 9RN spots. Jim, W9CXY, has been filling these empty spots, and I appreciate the help, but, hey! Let's give Jim a well

deserved break and volunteer for the open spots. It is not that hard and it would only be one night a week. Get hold of me and we'll let you know what days are available.

We also have an opening for a net control station on Thursday night, which Lee, W9BDL, has been graciously filling, but I would like to relieve Lee and have someone else fill the position. Let's get off the easy chairs and get involved in the net a little; it's lots of fun when you get going.

The top five people checking in for the past quarter are as follows (out of ninety days):

1	-	W9BDL	-	87
2	-	W9NGP	-	83
3	-	W9YCV	-	70
4	-	W9CBE	-	63
5	-	N19R	-	60

Congratulations to those people and the rest who are there during the months.

The net stats for the last month look like this:

Checks:	266
Traffic offered:	224
Traffic passed:	151
Total time:	442 minutes

These stats, compared with last year, are very close, so I guess that things are at least holding steady, but it would be nice to see a little increase and make it look like we are growing, but holding steady is better than a loss, so I will be happy with that.

I guess that about does it for this time around. I hope that a few of you will dust off the old key or keyer and come down to 3.662 at 7 p.m. and pay us a visit so see for yourself what goes on. Till that time, let's keep that WINning spirit flying high.

73, Larry, W9YICH/NM

ARRL Bulletin NR 75 From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT October 9, 1986
To All Radio Amateurs

FCC has permanently authorized automatic control for Packet stations transmitting third party traffic on VHF using AX.25 protocol. This amendment to the Amateur rules came in response to an ARRL petition for partial reconsideration filed last February.

Although FCC acknowledged assurance of safeguards by the ARRL for AX.25 protocol, they noted that control operators capable of monitoring such transmissions must alert the control operator of any intermediate retransmitting station under automatic control of any station misuse so that corrective action can be taken.

FCC deferred action on requests for automatic control for digital communications on HF until its feasibility can be determined.

Rip Van Winkle slept for twenty years. But that was before his neighbors had a radio.

From The GEARVAKF Bulletin

WSYIPES RETORT

FCC Acts to Implement Volunteer State of Confusion

The FCC has announced the criteria for the new VEs or volunteer examiners.

In a Washington announcement, the Commission said, "In keeping with the non-professional and non-commercial nature of the Amateur Radio Service, we have ruled that Volunteer Examiners must have absolutely no knowledge or interest in communications in any form. Preferably they should be selected from those who have never heard of Amateur Radio, and who are regular watchers of "Dukes of Hazzard" or "Love Boat."

The League of Radio relaying Americans (LRRRA), in response to the FCC directive, has recommended that prospective Amateurs contact their local Volunteers of America, Salvation Army, or City Mission for derelicts who would be willing to give Amateur exams. Although it is unlawful to pay such Volunteer Examiners, a gift of a bottle of wine, not to exceed 65 cents per quart, would be appropriate for such services.

In a related story, the FCC has completely revamped the "Terms and Definitions" section of the Novice Operator examination according to Bob Adams, N9DMK, an anonymous source within the FCC's Muffler Division. Previous terms and definitions questions in the Novice examination have been thrown out and replaced with new ones.

VEs will have to select five to ten questions from the list of 15 provided by the FCC, and will incorporate the questions in the Novice examinations they administer. The new questions and answers are still considered secret by the Commission, but we are presenting them here through the courtesy of our informant who refuses to be identified.

(1) PARASITIC ELEMENTS--A common problem caused by the proliferation of mistletoe growing out a dipole antenna

(2) DIPOLE ANTENNA--Any antenna that is suspended between two poles, hence the name "dipole."

(3) FOLDED DIPOLE ANTENNA--A dipole antenna that has not yet been taken out of the box.

(4) BROADBAND--A sexist term, formerly applied to hambands, erroneously thought to have been restricted to YL Hams.

(5) ANTENNA FEED--A mixture of powdered aluminum, Kibbles & Bits, and cod liver oil.

(6) DIGITAL LOGIC--Counting on one's fingers during FCC exams (use of square roots and exponential numbers are not recommended for those who are not double jointed).

(7) FERRITE BEADS--Highly poisonous bait for ferrites, small nocturnal animals which feed on co-axial cable.

(8) DECAY TIME--A little known property of integrated circuits defined as the number of days an IC will function before its insides rot out.

(9) PUSH-PULL AMPLIFIER--An amplifier with handles on either end of the case.

(10) FREQUENCY RESPONSE--The number of QSLs received, divided by the number sent out, multiplied by 100.

(11) WHEATSTONE BRIDGE--A small village in Northern England where Marconi's first signals were said to have been received.

(12) CARRIER FREQUENCY--The number of aircraft carriers in a fleet, specifically, those equipped with radio.

(13) R.F. SUPPRESSION--A recent attempt by consumer activists to put severe restrictions on radio transmissions.

(14) POLARIZATION--The sticking together of CW characters in an extremely cold environment.

(15) MUF--Maximum Usable Fudge: The most home made fudge a Ham Radio operator can eat during a DX contest.

CABLE TV ANTENNAS HELP RECEPTION

(From GEARVAKF Bulletin, Spring, 1985)

Better pictures will result if a cable TV receiver is hooked to a special cable TV antenna, tests show.

This discovery is expected to be a boon to families whose cable TV system gives bad pictures.

The new antenna, marketed by Suspect Radio Sales Co., gets all cable channels except MTV. Parents with teenagers have deluged Suspect Radio with orders, according to company president Bruce Suspect.

AMSAT OSCAR 10 Goes Silent
From Amateur Satellite Report
(AMSAT newsletter)

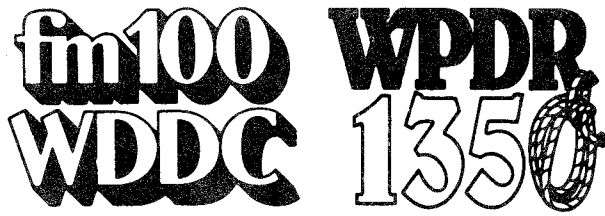
As we go to press, reports are accumulating indicating the possible QRT of AO-10. The last report received (from W5IU) indicates AO-10 was last heard at about MA 95 early on 12 October. Numerous subsequent observations report no sign of AO-10. The engineering and general beacons has been locked on and transmitting garble in recent weeks.

The silence could have several meanings. On the one hand it could indicate the batteries have been depleted to the point where the bus voltage can no longer sustain beacon operation. On the other hand, the computer memory content is in rapid flux due to radiation damage. The bits controlling the beacons may simply have transitioned. If this is the case, the beacons could go on again unpredictably.

The main controlling element is, however, the sun angle. It was predicated to be poor enough by mid-October to cause power-down (or near power-down). Has the last been heard of AO-10? Perhaps. By early November, the tale shall have been told.

This is the end of another issue of BSSS. We are now making plans for a bigger and better Smoke Signals for next year. We hope to have more information next month. --73 de bss staff.

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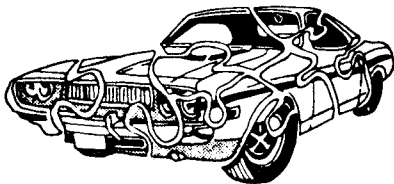
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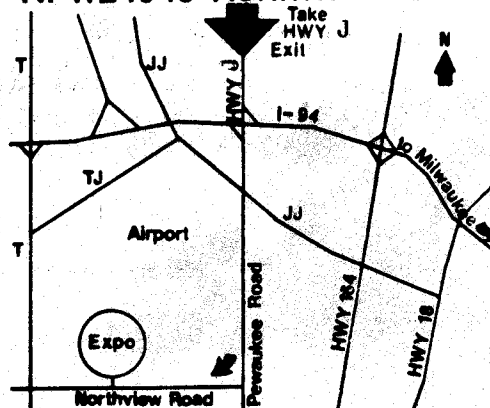
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